

*walk with the northern saints  
- a pilgrimage to lín dísfarne*



*trínty súnđay to st aídán's ɔay  
31<sup>st</sup> may-31<sup>st</sup> august 2026  
week 2*

## *week 1*

Thank you to everyone for your support and prayers as I set out on this physical journey of 325 miles and we are spiritually journeying together in prayer to Lindisfarne.

I set off last Sunday afternoon (31 May) to walk between my two churches of St Matthew and Chadderton and St Anne Royton, after making the decision to embark on this pilgrimage that morning. I began by praying the Pilgrimage Prayer and carrying with me my pilgrimage staff, or rather my Celtic cross of beginnings and endings. I then journeyed onto St Mark's Heyside. As I walk from place to place I am praying for the next place I am visiting, the communities in which they are set and serve, as well as my prayer being sparked by what I see on my physical walk - I try and be aware of my surroundings engaging all my senses in prayer. Other times I am praying the rain will stop!

Over the rest of the week I physically walked to St Thomas Moorside and Christchurch Denton, to Royal Oldham Hospital, to Holy Trinity Shaw and St Mary High Crompton and back to St Anne's, to Royal Oldham Hospital, to St Matthew's and back to St Anne's, over some of Marsden Moor, around Slaithwaite, Marsden, Linthwaite, Huddersfield town centre and the Community of the Resurrection at Mirfield,

Spiritually we journeyed from St Matthew, Chadderton, to St Anne Royton, to St Mark Heyside to St Thomas Moorside, to Christchurch Denton, to St James Slaithwaite, to St Bartholomew Marsdien to Christchurch Linthwaite, to St Peter's Huddersfield to the Community of the Resurrection Mirfield ending the week being on the way to Wakefield Cathedral.

At my final stop of the week, at the Community of the Resurrection, Mirfield I was welcomed by the brothers and Fr Oswin prayed with me and prayed a blessing on me. I reminded Fr Oswin that the last time I embarked on a pilgrimage to Lindisfarne that he had said "May St Cuthbert walk with you". And that idea had inspired me and encouraged me. When we set out on a pilgrimage we walk in the footsteps of countless people through the centuries who have walked that path before, and we journey with them.

The day I arrived at Mirfield (5 June) the church celebrates St Boniface, bishop and martyr. He was born in 675 in Crediton, entering the monastic life at Exeter. He worked as a teacher, specialising in biblical exposition and compiled the first Latin grammar written in England. In 718 he left England never to return and began working with the pagan tribes in Frisia. He was commissioned by Pope Gregory II to preach to the unconverted in Bavaria and Hesse, before returning to Frisia. He worked hard at relationships between the Church and the State and was said to have been the most influential Englishman in Europe. He was Archbishop of Mainz for around 5 years and continued to strive for the spreading of the gospel and the purity of the Church into his eighties. When reading about Boniface I came upon these "Boniface was a man of iron will, who although at times become discouraged, always pressed on ahead with the given task."

This pilgrimage will not always be easy, there will be times when finding the time to walk, the physical task of walking, and what comes up in prayer will be difficult, there may be times when I feel discouraged – I pray that I may have the will of Boniface and that like him, I will always press on with the task ahead. I hope that you will continue to walk with me on this spiritual pilgrimage and that you will make use of this booklet in your prayer over the coming week.

Please pray for me, as I continue to pray for you as we "Walk with the Northern Saints" on a pilgrimage to Lindisfarne. With love and prayers Revd Liz.

# northern saints pilgrimage

<b>Depart</b>	<b>Arrive</b>	<b>Miles</b>	<b>Total</b>
St Matthew's Chadderton	St Anne's Royton	1.5	<b>1.5</b>
St Anne's Royton	St Mark's Heyside	1.5	<b>3</b>
St Mark's Heyside	St Thomas' Moorside	1.5	<b>4.5</b>
St Thomas' Moorside	Christchurch Denshaw	2.6	<b>7.1</b>
Christchurch Denshaw	St Bartholomew Marsden	7.2	<b>14.3</b>
St Bartholomew Marsden	Huddersfield Parish Church	7.4	<b>21.7</b>
Huddersfield Parish Church	CR Mirfield	4.5	<b>26.2</b>
CR Mirfield	Wakefield Cathedral	10.1	<b>36.3</b>
Wakefield Cathedral	All Saints Pontefract	9.5	<b>45.8</b>
All Saints Pontefract	Selby Abbey	13.3	<b>59.1</b>
Selby Abbey	Bishopsthorpe	11	<b>70.1</b>
Bishopsthorpe	York Minster	3.4	<b>73.5</b>
York Minster	Stanbrook Abbey	22.3	<b>95.8</b>
Stanbrook Abbey	Ampleforth Abbey	4.6	<b>100.4</b>
Ampleforth Abbey	St Mary's Lastingham	15.5	<b>115.9</b>
St Mary's Lastingham	All Saints Helmsley	10.8	<b>126.7</b>
All Saints Helmsley	St Hilda's Priory	27.8	<b>154.5</b>
St Hilda's Priory	Whitby Abbey & St Mary's Whitby	1.7	<b>156.2</b>
ST HILD'S WAY			
Whitby Abbey & St Mary's Whitby	St Hilda's Whitby	0.7	<b>156.9</b>
St Hilda's Whitby	Sandsend	2.4	<b>159.3</b>
Sandsend	Runswick Bay	4.6	<b>163.9</b>
Runswick Bay	Staithes	4	<b>167.9</b>
Staithes	Skinningrove	5	<b>172.9</b>
Skinningrove	Huntcliffe Roman Station	3.3	<b>176.2</b>
Huntcliffe Roman Station	Saltburn	0.2	<b>176.4</b>
Saltburn	Transporter Bridge	13	<b>189.4</b>
Transporter Bridge	Greatham Creek	4.2	<b>193.6</b>
Greatham Creek	Seaton Carew	6.7	<b>200.3</b>
Seaton Carew	St Hilda's Hartlepool	4.7	<b>205</b>
St Hilda's Hartlepool	St Aidan's Hartlepool	3.5	<b>208.5</b>
St Aidan's Hartlepool	Durham Cathedral	18	<b>226.5</b>
Durham Cathedral	St Peter's Monkwearmouth	14	<b>240.5</b>
St Peter's Monkwearmouth	St Paul's Jarrow	7.5	<b>248</b>
Paul's Jarrow	Newcastle Cathedral	6.8	<b>254.8</b>
Newcastle Cathedral	St Cuthbert's Bedlington	13	<b>267.8</b>
St Cuthbert's Bedlington	Alnmouth Friary	23	<b>290.8</b>
Alnmouth Friary	Holy Trinity Embleton	9	<b>299.8</b>
Holy Trinity Embleton	St Aidan's Bamburgh	9.2	<b>309</b>
St Aidan's Bamburgh	Lindisfarne	16	<b>325</b>

# Day eight 7<sup>th</sup> June CORPUS CHRISTI SUNDAY

## 3 miles

An early start on a local walk before the Eucharist at St Matthew's at 9 and St Anne's at 11. We are on our way spiritually to Wakefield Cathedral. Walking past Ss Aidan's and Oswald's- two northern Saints who we will meet later on our pilgrimage. Praying for Fr Gavin and all who worship there.



Walking down Royton Linear Park towards Salmon Fields. A beautiful oasis of nature so close to the industrial park. Praying as I walk for Becky, Julie, Bernie, Jennifer, Emma and Tom to be confirmed today at 3pm at St Matthew's. Come Holy Spirit!

3 miles walked. Only 1.3 more miles before we reach Wakefield Cathedral!



A joyful Confirmation Service today for candidates from St Matthew's and St Anne's Royton. It has been a privilege to walk beside them on this part of their journey of faith. Huge thanks to Bishop Mark for a beautiful service and for giving Revd Liz a blessing for her pilgrimage. Please continue to pray for Becky, Julie, Bernie, Jennifer, Emma and Tom.

"God has called you by name and made you his own."



Day nine 8<sup>th</sup> June

6 miles

Spiritually on the way to Wakefield Cathedral, but physically the first destination today will be St James Thornham. Walking into Royton, praying for the residents and businesses that are worried about how the roadworks might affect them. Praying for all at Trinity Methodist, the Moravian Church and Bethesda Chapel.



The bees were enjoying the flowers today. The Exsultet, the Easter song of praise proclaimed at the East Vigil on Easter Eve or Dawn of Easter Day includes mention of a bee.

On this, your night of grace,  
O holy Father, accept this candle,  
a solemn offering, the work of bees  
and of your servants' hands,  
an evening sacrifice of praise,  
this gift from your most holy Church.

But now we know the praises of this pillar,  
which glowing fire ignites for God's honour,  
a fire into many flames divided,  
yet never dimmed by sharing of its light,  
for it is fed by melting wax,  
drawn out by mother bees  
to build a torch so precious.

Yesterday Tom, Jennifer, Emma, Bernie, Julie and Becky were given a candle lit from the light of our Easter candle blessed at the Easter Vigil this year. Continued prayers for them. Prayers too for Millbrow Beekeeping Association, whose apiary is housed in St Matthew's Churchyard producing sweet local honey.



Arrived at St James Thornham. The flowers are beautiful around the back of church.  
 Giving thanks for the announcement yesterday that The Revd Helen Tyler has been appointed as the Vicar of St James Thornham and St Mary High Crompton. Prayers for Helen as she prepares to take up this new role, and for the congregations at both churches and the other clergy in the Mission community- Fr Paul, Fr Matt, Fr Dean, Mthr Dorothy and Mthr Sarah.



An impulsive decision to walk down Pit Lane over toward Burnedge, instead walking back home as planned. I was glad I did- such beauty gladdens the soul.  
 Looking over towards Rochdale you could see the Seven Sisters tower blocks today. Praying for Revd Anne Gilbert, Area Dean of Rochdale, whose sending church was St Mary High Crompton.



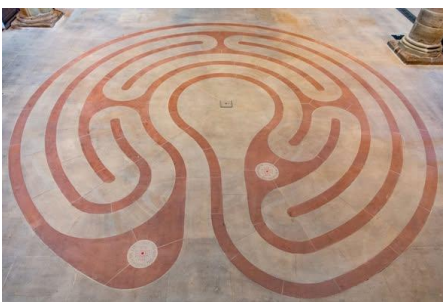
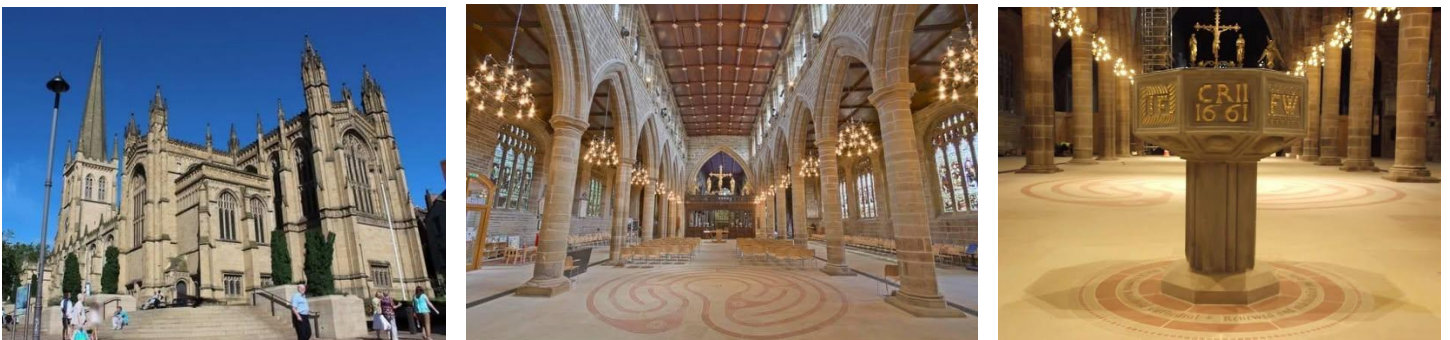
Walking down to High Crompton through the park and past St Mary's High Crompton again. Praying for the congregation as they prepare to welcome Revd Helen Tyler as their new Vicar. Prayers for Helen and all at St Margaret's Prestwich where she has served her curacy who will miss her.



Last Thursday when I walked this way I couldn't see anything of the view because of the rain- today the light meant you could see for miles.  
 At baptism we are commissioned to "Shine as lights in the world to the glory of God the Father." When we live out this commission Christ is revealed to those we encounter.  
 It was a long walk back- but at least it was downhill!! St Anne's through the trees was a welcome sight! 6 miles walked today. So I have reached Wakefield Cathedral and am on my way to All Saints Pontefract next!



I have arrived "virtually" at Wakefield Cathedral and am on the way to All Saints Pontefract next. Praying for the recently appointed Dean of Wakefield Cathedral, The Very Revd Philip Hobday the Cathedral Canons, the Cathedral staff and worshipping community.



Wakefield Cathedral is a stop along the St Paulinus Way. You can read more about it [here](#). It is a 65 mile pilgrimage route from Todmorden to York. More about St Paulinus when we reach York!

The labyrinth at Wakefield Cathedral was installed as part of Project 2013 and has been a part of their regular worship ever since. It is made from stone quarried from Holmfirth.

### Walking the labyrinth

The labyrinth is a path of prayer. It is a spiritual aid that can help us find our way. Walking the labyrinth can still our minds, ground our bodies, reduce stress and open our hearts. We can use our experience of walking the labyrinth as a metaphor for our own lives or focus on a particular issue or situation.

We can approach walking the labyrinth in three stages:

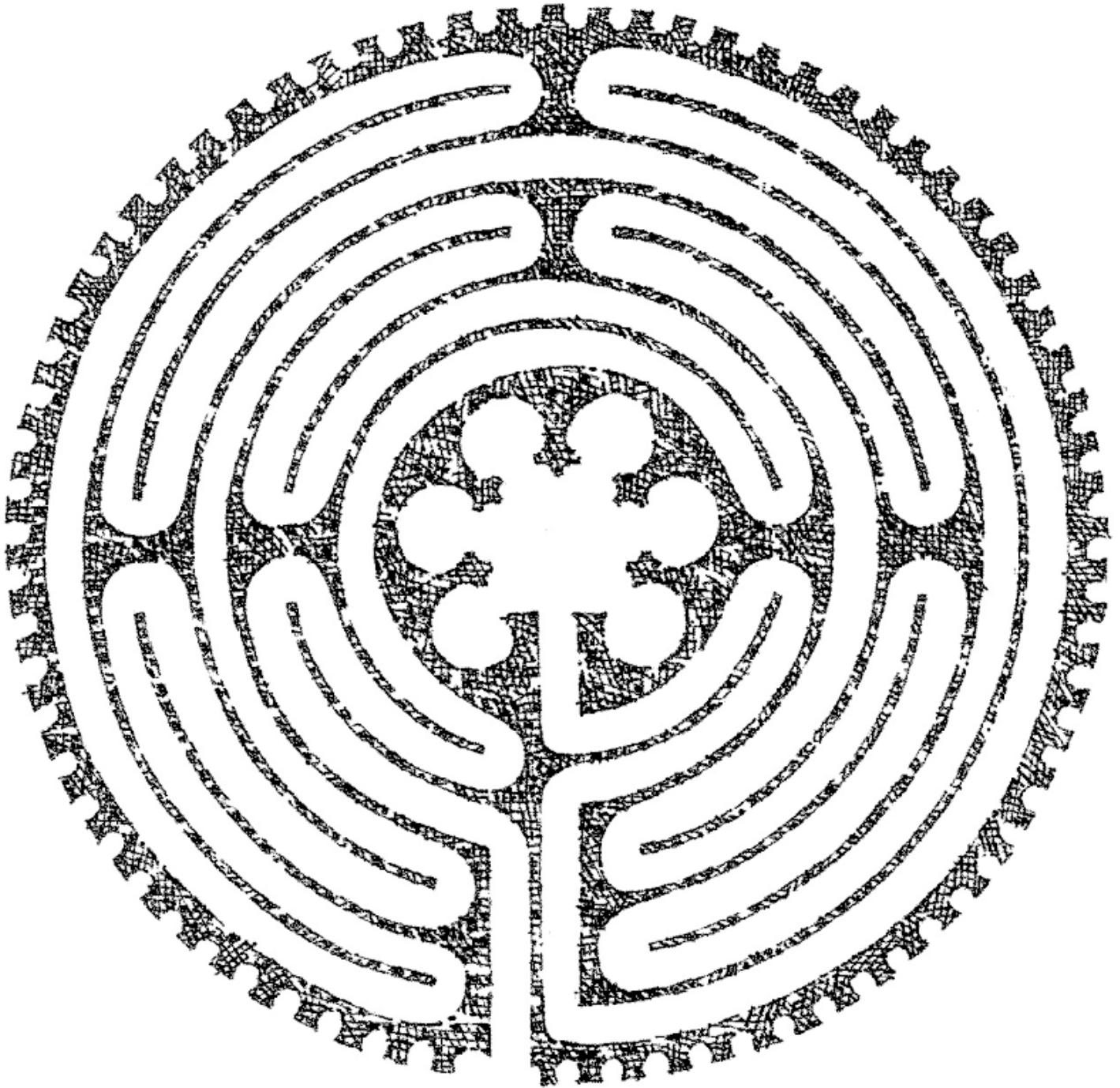
The inward journey to the centre as a time of letting go and releasing (purgation)

The time in the middle as a time of stillness, reflection and receptivity (illumination)

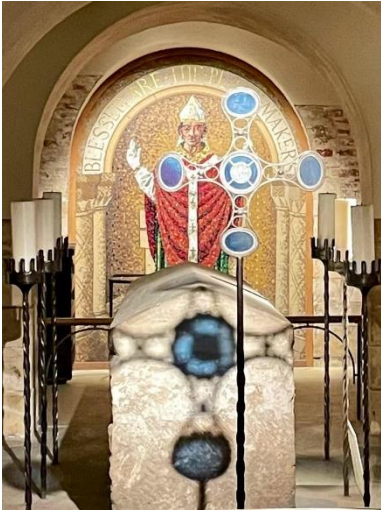
The outward journey as a time of returning to the outside world - taking back what we have learnt and received (union)

It is possible to pray with a labyrinth by tracing our finger along a path too – try using the one below. To prepare, sit quietly and take some time to reflect. Focus on your breathing. Do you have a question you wish to think about? Do you feel a need to slow down and take time out?

As you move around the labyrinth, allow yourself to find the pace you naturally want to go. May God go with you.



## william of york 8<sup>th</sup> june



Today we celebrate York's patron saint, St William, on his annual Feast Day Centuries on, his legacy is still woven into the fabric of York. From the architectural gem of St William's College, to the miracle at Ouse Bridge, and the breathtaking St William Window, one of the largest narrative stained-glass works in medieval England, his story lives on all around York.

Discover the remarkable and turbulent life of York's patron saint: <https://yorkminster.org/st-william-of-york/> You can also explore the amazing William of York window [here](#).

I visited York Minster the day before I had to isolate prior to brain surgery in November 2021 and visited St William's shrine at the Minster and prayed there – and took this picture. If you have never visited the shrine, next time you visit York Minster I encourage you to go there. It is a place of pilgrimage and I found it to be a place of peace.

## Day ten 9<sup>th</sup> june st columba 6 miles

Spiritually I am on the way to All Saints Pontefract and physically walking from St Matthew's Chadderton to St Gabriel's Church, Middleton Junction to St Mark's Church, Chadderton and back to St Matthew's. I called in at St Matthew's whilst toddler group was going on. So good to see so many families there. Praying for Alma and all the toddler team and the families who bring their little ones. Praying for Mr Buxton Moore and all the staff and pupils at St Matthew's school. Particularly holding in prayer Year 6 as they prepare to leave St Matthew's and start at their Secondary schools in September. Praying too for staff and children at St Matthew's playgroup.



After walking down Chadderton Fold I walked along the river through Chadderton Hall Park. Tonight at St Matthew's we have a wedding rehearsal for a wedding on Friday and a Renewal of Vows rehearsal for a Vow Renewal on Sunday.

Praying for Carol and David to be married on Friday and Shirley and John renewing their vows on their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on Sunday.

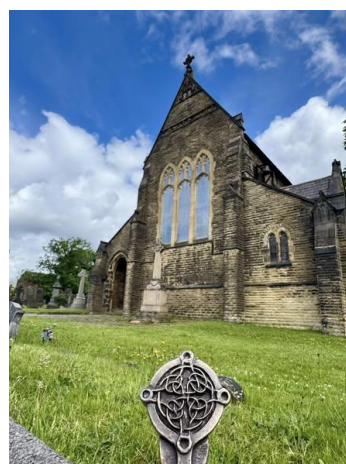
As I was walking through the park I bumped into Shirley and it was lovely that I could tell her I was praying for them! Shirley had already walked into Royton and come back into Chadderton via a walk through Tandle Hills and along the canal! Looking forward to Shirley and John's celebration on Sunday.



Walking along Chadderton Hall Road and Haigh Lane towards Mills Hill. A series of love hearts chalked on the road- walking along a way of love! Prayers for the church family at Mills Hill Baptist church. Praying with all my senses- a strong smell of vinegar makes me think of and look forward to an upcoming trip to Whitby and fish and chips by the sea! Looking forward to visiting that special Pilgrim Place and walk with my favourite northern Saint, St Hilda! The palm tree and bright blue skies suggest sunnier climes- praying for safe travels for all those embarking on holidays soon.



Walking to St Gabriel's Church, Middleton Junction and praying for Fr Stephen and Fr Alex and all the congregation at St Gabriel's. Met a parishioner who didn't go to church but was very proud of the beautiful church building. Pilgrim places, holy places matter. Walking around the streets nearby you constantly move from Oldham to Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Councils. Praying for all newly elected councillors.



As I emerged from the tunnel I heard my name being called and it was Ian from St Matthew's. He and Barbara had pulled over in their car to wish me well and give me encouragement on the pilgrimage! It was lovely to see them on the way! Prayers for continued healing for Ian.

Walked down Lydia Becker Way towards Broadway.

Lydia Becker (24 February 1827 – 18 July 1890) was a leader in the early British suffrage movement, as well as an amateur scientist with interests in biology and astronomy. She established Manchester as a centre for the suffrage movement and with Richard Pankhurst she arranged for the first woman to vote in a British election and a court case was unsuccessfully brought to exploit the precedent. Becker is also remembered for founding and publishing the Women's Suffrage Journal between 1870 and 1890.

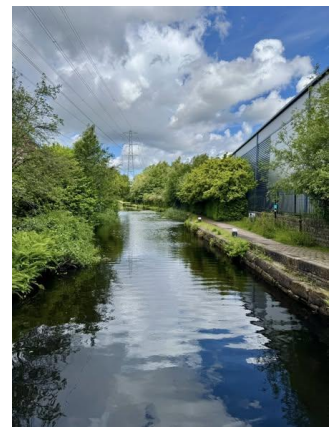
Her grandfather made Foxdenton Hall their family home, living also near Accrington and Reddish. Lydia was in correspondence with Darwin and regularly contributed to his scientific work. As well as this road in Chadderton, Lydia has a road beamed after her in France, "allée Lydia-Becker" - Lydia Becker Lane. Her name is listed on the Reformers Memorial in Kensal Green cemetery in London and on the plinth of the statue of Millicent Fawcett also in London. In 2018, the Lydia Becker Institute of Immunology and Inflammation[42] was launched at The University of Manchester.

The institute has internationally recognized research expertise in immunology and inflammation across basic and applied disciplines.

The institute is named after Lydia Becker because she was a celebrated natural scientist who conversed with Charles Darwin and because she strongly believed that women were intellectually equal to men and deserved the same opportunities. (Source: Wikipedia)

You can find out more Lydia [here](#)

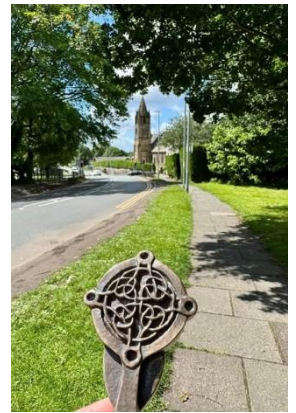
Giving thanks for her life, her work her determination and her courage.



As I continue down Broadway and through Chadderton Town Centre towards St Mark's Chadderton I hold Fr Alex Walker in prayer as he prepared for ordination to the sacred priesthood later this month. As I arrive at St Mark's Church, Chadderton, praying for Fr Stephen, Fr Alex and the congregation and parish they serve.



The final leg of today's walk. Praying for staff and pupils at Bare Trees Primary School Chadderton. Walking back over Broadway and through the estate to get to Burnley Lane. Praying for all at St Matthew's and for our mission and ministry. St Matthew's Church was a very welcome sight!



I arrived back where I started, only instead of Toddler Group being there it was the Luncheon Club! Giving thanks for and praying for Alma, Anne and Susan who cooked and served a delicious meal for our guests. Praying for our guests too.

Grateful for the cool drink a sit down and the chance to chat with everyone there. Roy suggested I walk a mile and run a mile-that will not be happening! Another 6 miles walked. I have arrived spiritually at All Saints Pontefract and am on the way to Selby Abbey.



## st columba

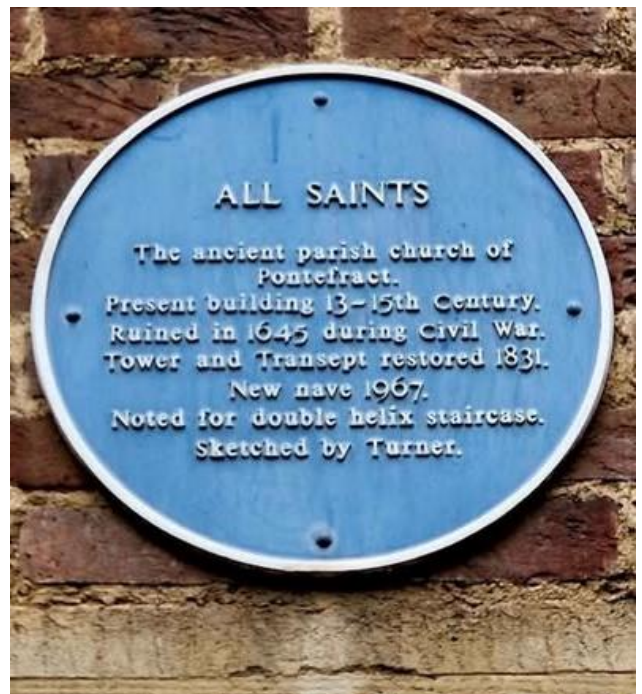
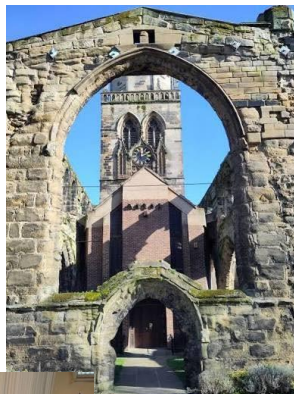


Born in Ireland in about the year 521, Columba was trained as a monk by St Finnian and then founded several monasteries himself, including probably that of Kells, before leaving Ireland to settle on Iona, off the coast of Scotland. He was accompanied by twelve companions, and the number grew as the monastic life became more established and well-known. Columba seems to have been an austere and, at times, harsh man who reputedly mellowed with age. He was concerned with building up both the monastery and its life and of enabling them to be instruments of mission in a heathen land. He converted kings and built churches, Iona becoming a starting point for the expansion of Christianity throughout Scotland. In the last four years of his life, when his health had failed, he spent the time transcribing books of the gospels for them to be taken out and used. He died on this day in the year 597. Aidan was sent from Columba's monastery on Iona to Lindisfarne where he was the founder and the first Bishop of the holy island monastery.

### Prayer of St Colomba

Be a bright flame before me, O God,  
A guiding star above me,  
Be a smooth path below me,  
A kindly shepherd behind me,  
Today, tonight, and for ever.  
Alone with none but you, my God,  
I journey on my way;  
What need I fear, when you are near,  
O Lord of night and day?  
More secure am I within your hand  
Than if a multitude did round me stand. Amen.

I have arrived spiritually at All Saints Pontefract today. Praying for Revd Ian Bullock and the congregation at All Saints, Pontefract. The church consists of two structures, an outer church constructed in the 14th and 15th century and ruined in the English Civil War and a smaller inner church completed in the late 1960s. 45.8 miles to this point on the pilgrimage. 1.2 miles walked on the way to Selby Abbey.



**Day eleven 10<sup>th</sup> June**

**10 miles**

Spiritually I am on the way to Selby Abbey and physically I am heading off to Oldham Parish Church, before the 10am Eucharist at St Anne's. I was held up setting off by watching a squirrel enjoying a half of an apple! The first stop was Holy Trinity Coldhurst. Now closed for public worship. Prayers for those who once worshipped here and for The Revd Canon Daniel Burton and The Revd Hannah Currin who now care the parish.



I carried on up the hill until I saw the first glimpse of Oldham Parish Church. Praying for The Revd Canon Daniel Burton, the Vicar of Oldham and The Revd Hannah Currin, the curate of the parish (& formerly of St Matthew's!) and Stephen Morris, Reader Emeritus and the congregation. Praying for the many ways the church reaches out into the community.



Walking over to St Stephen & All Martyrs, Lower Moor and pausing to pray for staff and pupils at The Blue Coat School, Oldham, holding in prayer especially all those sitting exams at this time. This place holds a special place in my heart- I loved my time at Blue Coat. Praying for the congregation at St Stephen's and Canon Daniel, Revd Hannah Stephen, Reader Emeritus.



I have been walking in sandals the last few days and people have commented I should have sturdier shoes on. I did have this morning and my left heel has laid the price! It meant my walking was slower than usual on the final stretch, walking back through Higginshaw and over Salmon Fields. Walked past Dr Kershaw's Hospice furniture hub. Praying for all who volunteer and work in Dr Kershaw's shops and those who work in the fundraising department. I arrived at St Anne's later than hoped, but in time to preside at the 10am Eucharist. The cup of tea after the service was very welcome!  
 Walking to St Luke's Primary School in Chadderton in the afternoon.



This afternoon I needed to go into St Luke's School, Chadderton with Maggs to lead Sensory Worship for Years 1 and 2 so I decided to walk there and back-with my sandals on again! There was sunshine and showers all the way there. Prayers for the Fire and Rescue service. Praying too for Fr Lawrence and all at St Herbert's Church Chadderton and the staff and pupils at St Herbert's Primary school.



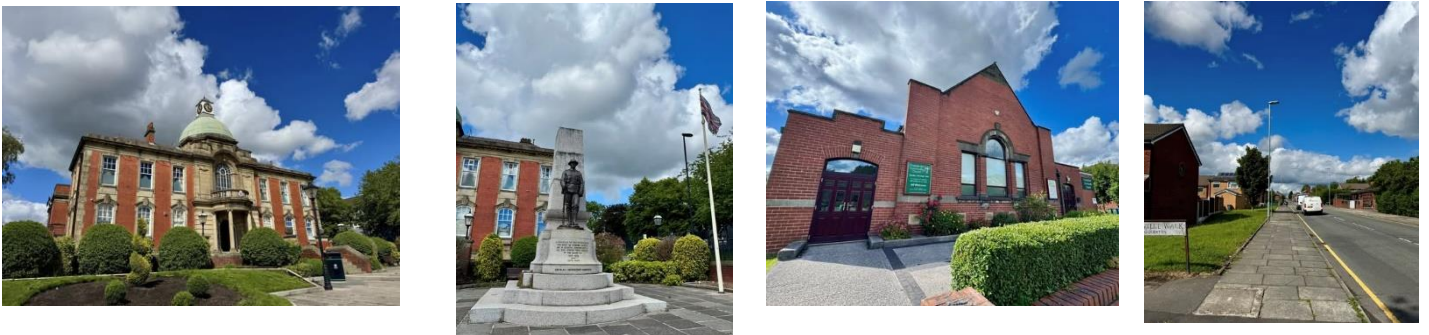
Walking up to St Luke's school- there are hills everywhere! Praying for those who are finding life an uphill struggle at the moment. Praying for the staff and children at Starfish day nursery.



It has been wonderful that Laura Tebay, our Man Dio Growing Faith Deanery Enabler, helped us at St Luke's to devise and plan Sensory Worship for Years 1 and 2. Giving thanks for and praying for Laura in her ministry. Thanks to Maggs for preparing the resources for today's Sensory Worship and leading the worship with me. Giving thanks for and praying for Lee Bennett, the Headteacher, all the staff at St Luke's and Maggs as Chair of Governors and all the other governors.



Chadderton Town Hall looked magnificent in the sunshine, praying for all work there. Praying for Revd David Saville and all who worship and volunteer at Chadderton Community Church. Praying for their ministry in town, particularly the work of the food bank.



The final leg of the journey involved walking past Oldham Athletic Training ground and down by the side of Clayton Fields. Thankful for green spaces amongst the industry and busyness of the town. Prayers for all who work at Boundary Park. My pace was slowing down as I walked the last part of today's pilgrimage walk, and I was glad to see St Anne's church come into view. 10 miles walked today. Only 2.1 miles before we reach Selby Abbey on our spiritual pilgrimage. 57 miles walked so far in total.



# Day twelve 11<sup>th</sup> June

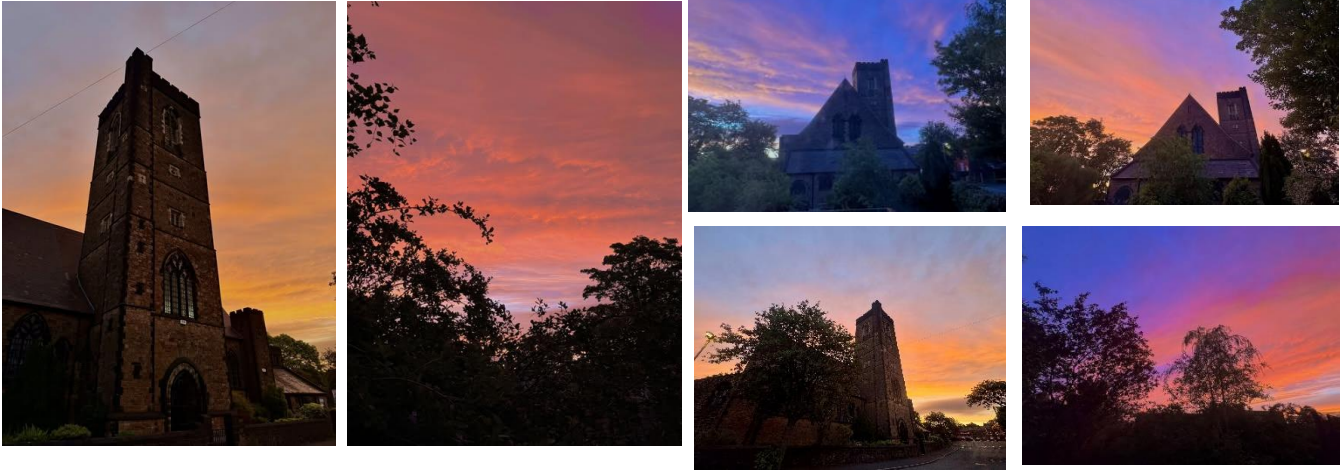
# 4 miles

A glorious very early start to avoid the rain later - it was definitely worth it.

"The heavens declare the glory of God, the skies proclaim the work of his hands" Psalm 19:1

The sky seems to be the canvas for the divine artist. Thomas Aquinas, an Italian Dominican Friar, priest, theologian and philosopher, recognises God as artist, and by extension we, born in God's image and likeness—are all artists. He declares that "God is an artist and the universe is God's work of art."

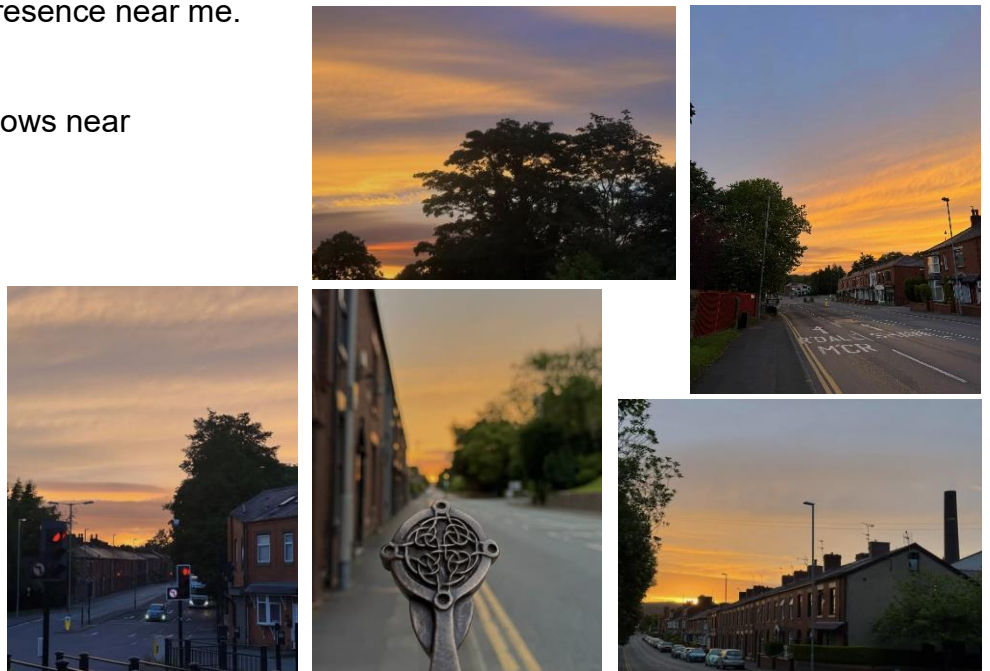
We might not all be wonderful artists, I'm definitely not!), but how do we express our creativity?



I have set off to walk to St Paul's Royton but I am walking a long way round so I can continue watch and contemplate the sunrise as I walk and pray. One of the hymns at my Grandma's funeral comes to mind. May I always feel God's presence near me.

I watch the sunrise  
Lighting the sky Casting its shadows near  
And on this morning  
Bright though it be  
I feel those shadows  
Near me

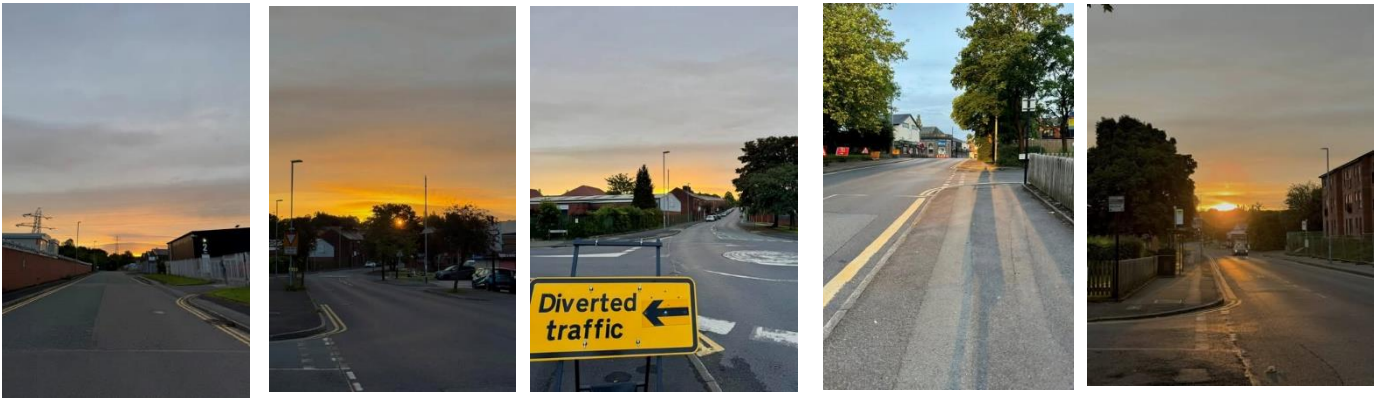
But you are always close to  
me  
Following all my ways  
May I be always close to you  
Following all your ways, Lord



The rising sun and the glowing light gives the industrial estate a "glow up" as I walk down through to Royton town centre.

The Taizé chant The Lord is my Light goes around my head as I walk.

The Lord is my light,  
My light and salvation,  
In God I trust, in God I trust.



Holding Fr Lewis and the congregation at [St Paul's Church, Royton](#) in prayer as I walk through Royton town centre to the church and to Downey House where so many community groups meet. Praying for the mission and ministry of all at St Paul's in the community.



Praying for Hilary HeHenderson, Executive Headteacher and Hayley Green, Head of School at St Paul's Royton and all the staff and pupils. Prayers too for staff and children at Broadway Day Nursery. Lots of walking up and down hills as I get back to Broadway and pause to pray for Natalie Kennerley, the Head, and all the staff and pupils at The Oldham Academy North, praying especially for those sitting exams.



Walking back to where I began and praying for Hilary Henderson, Executive Head and Lyndsey Martin, Head of School and all the staff, pupils, Angela Wilkinson, Chair of Governors and all the governors. Giving thanks too and praying for Laura Tebay, Man Dio Growing Faith Deanery Enabler, who has worked with the school the past couple of years setting up Arty Annie's, Prayer Space in School and Church and introduced and enabled Wiggle Worship as well as becoming a Governor. It was good to lead Collective Worship in St Anne's this morning and share a little more about this pilgrimage. Grateful for the encouragement and the round of applause from the staff and pupils when I told them I had walked 60 miles- it's actually 61 (4miles this morning) and it means I have now reached Selby Abbey on the pilgrimage map, and am now making my way to Bishopsthorpe, York.



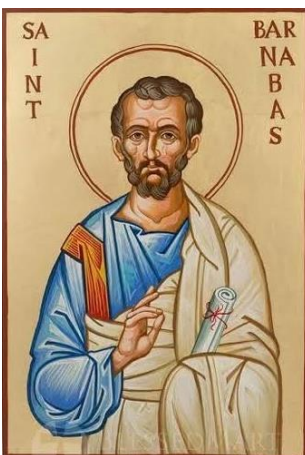
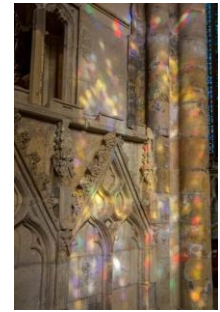
After 59.1 miles have arrived at Selby Abbey on the spiritual pilgrimage and have walked a further 1.9 miles on the way to Bishopsthorpe.

An early history of Selby Abbey was written in 1174 by an anonymous monk. It includes the accounts of how Benedict of Auxerre was inspired by a vision of St Germain to travel to Selby with a holy relic of the saint's finger to found the Abbey here in 1069, how Hugh came down from Durham in 1097 as the second Abbot and began to build the Abbey Church and the rest of the great monastery, and of some major incidents during the office of subsequent Abbots over the next few generations. It mentions frequent healings and other miracles associated with those who came to pray at the shrine where St Germain's relic was housed and Selby was evidently an important place of pilgrimage and hospitality in medieval times.

The Abbey welcomes modern day pilgrims to the Abbey for worship and prayer and to enjoy the history, architecture and atmosphere of this holy place.

People have worshipped and served the wider community at Selby Abbey for over 900 years. To find out more, explore the website here.

<https://www.selbyabbey.org.uk> St Anne's Royton has something in common with Selby Abbey- they both have a William Hill & Sons pipe organ!



Today the Church celebrates St Barnabas. His name was Joseph and was given the name Barnabas, meaning "Son of Encouragement". He encouraged others to know and faithfully follow Christ. Though not named among the twelve apostles of the evangelists, Barnabas emerges in the Acts of the Apostles as one of the most significant of their number.

He sold his estate and gave the proceeds to the Church, since all things were to be held in common, and clearly became a leader.

He is described as a Levite from Cyprus so, like his friend Paul, was from the Greek world rather than that of Palestine, and he introduced Paul to the leaders of the Church in Jerusalem.

He was sent to Antioch apparently to guide the Christians there in their relations with non-Jewish converts, promoting the concept of all being one in Christ.

He broke with Paul to go to Cyprus, and tradition has it that he was martyred there in the year 61. Barnabas is traditionally identified as the founder of the Cypriot Orthodox Church and is the Patron Saint of Cyprus.

Who has encouraged you on your faith journey? Pray for them and give thanks for them. How can you be an encouragement to others?

## The Collect for St Barnabas

Bountiful God, giver of all gifts,  
who poured your Spirit upon your servant Barnabas  
and gave him grace to encourage others:  
help us, by his example,  
to be generous in our judgements  
and unselfish in our service;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## Day thirteen 12<sup>th</sup> June 5.5 miles

Spiritually I am on the way to Bishopsthorpe, the home and office of the Archbishop of York- 9.1 miles to walk before I get there. I set off before 5 to avoid the rain again and put my destination, St James' Church Barry Street in my phone. To my surprise it told me to turn right out of St Anne's Avenue and it directed me up Campania Street, another big hill! Praying for all those who are finding life an uphill struggle at the moment, and all suffering with their mental health.

The sat nav then told me to turn up a ginnel that I had walked past at first, not realising it was a public footpath. I walked up the path and realised that it wasn't a well-worn path at all, the long grass had not been flattened and it was actually taking me over Oldham Edge. I didn't feel safe or comfortable walking there on my own at that time of the morning, so I turned back down the hill and headed back to where I started. I could see the spire of St Paul's Royton where I had walked to pray yesterday. Prayers continuing for Fr Lewis as I walk to his other Church, St James Barry Street.



I walked the way I thought I should have gone in the first place. I should have trusted my instincts. I walked up Salmon Fields, a well worn path for me this last couple of weeks, and then walked along the continuation of the Royton linear park and came out on Higginshaw Road.

A song thrush sang their beautiful song as I walked, it felt like it was affirming that I was going the right way. The path is a small oasis of green and beauty with the industrial estate looming on either side. Thankful for green spaces that allow us to pause and breathe.




Walking up into Derker and there is a beautiful blue light as the world slowly begins to wake up. Walked past Fr Lewis's vicarage- praying for Fr Lewis, Shannon and their family. I didn't think they would appreciate a visitor that early in the morning so carried on walking on the way to St James' Church!



Arrived at St James Church, Oldham, praying for Fr Lewis and the congregation there and the parish they serve. There wasn't a dramatic sunrise this morning but the light was amazing and the church and grounds looked beautiful. I have now walked to and prayed at and prayed for each of the churches, their priests and people in our Chadderton and Royton Mission Community and will continue to hold them in my prayers as I journey on.

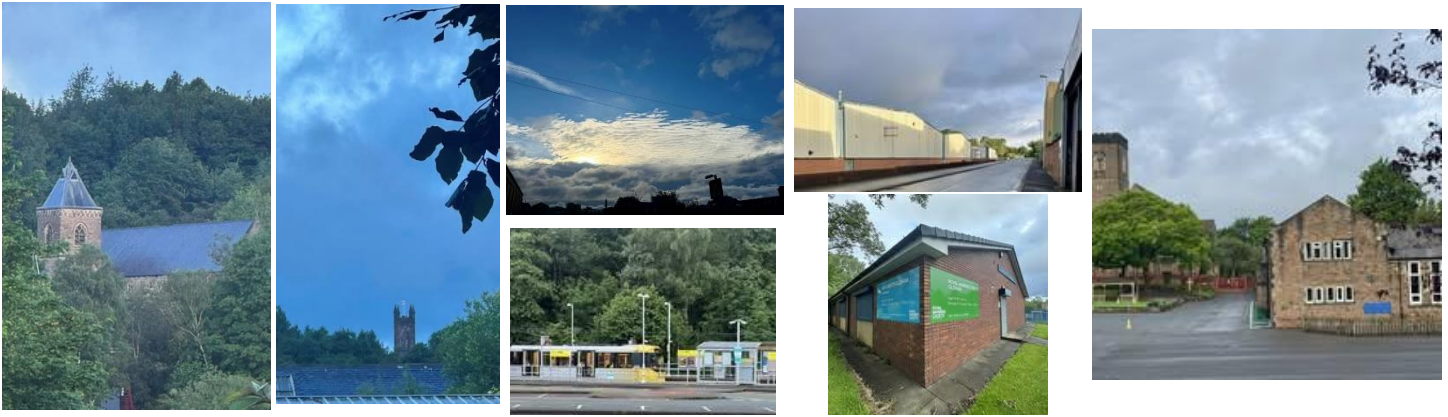


Walking back to St Anne's and I can see Oldham Parish church and St Stephen and All Marty's, both churches I have visited on this pilgrimage on the skyline.

Prayers for the leaders and young people involved in Oldham Sea Cadets and Oldham Royal Marines Cadets. Holding in prayer  Carol and Dave to be married at St Matthew's this afternoon.

God our Father,  
from the beginning  
you have blessed creation with abundant life.  
Pour out your blessings upon Carol and Dave  
that they may be joined in mutual love  
and companionship,  
in holiness and commitment to each other.  
We ask this through  
our Lord Jesus Christ your Son,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen

Another 5.5 miles walked today and 3.6 miles to go before we reach Bishopsthorpe.



Today we celebrated the joyful union of Carol and Dave as they married at St Matthew's. May God bless them always in their lives together. "God is love, and those who live in love live in God and God lives in them.. "1 John 4:16 ❤️🙏

## Day fourteen 13<sup>th</sup> June 0 miles

Day 13 of Walk with the Northern Saints- a pilgrimage to Lindisfarne.

On Trinity Sunday, this Bible verse was part of the first reading and it is what made me decide to embark on this #NorthernSaintsPilgrimage It felt like God was prompting me to get out walking, to go on a pilgrimage, to go on a physical and spiritual journey. Today is a rest day from walking. I have walked 34.5 miles this week and 66.5 miles in total. Another 3.6 miles until our next Pilgrim Place, Blshopsthorpe.

Please continue to pray for me and join me on this pilgrimage of the heart to Lindisfarne. You may want to use the prayer I use each time I set off on this pilgrim'm looking forward to week 3! On Monday to Wednesday I will be on the Manchester Diocese Clergy Conference in Swanwick Derbyshire and will spend some time there walking and praying on our pilgrimage. We're "only" 258.5 miles away from Lindisfarne! Thank you for your prayerful support.



**PILGRIM PLACES,  
HOLY LIVES**

'Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.'

**Isaiah 40.31**

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

St Anne, Longsight,  
Royton

**PILGRIM PLACES,  
HOLY LIVES**

St Matthew &  
St Luke, Chadderton

**Walk with the Northern Saints**  
a pilgrimage to Lindisfarne

**Be by my side Creator God, every step I take  
Be before me Saviour God, every step I take  
Be behind me Merciful God, every step I take  
Be within me Strengthening God,  
every step I take. Amen.**

Prayer: Mary Fleeson  
Lindisfarne Scriptorium

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